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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/025,345 02/18/98 HINSHAW

J PMS-244198

EXAMINER

PMS1/1026

MILLER, E

ART UNIT PAPER

3641 30

10/26/01

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

See next page.

Art Unit: 3641

1. The reply brief filed October 24, 2001 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

2. The reply brief, as filed on October 24, 2001, was defective because the three copies of the brief required under 37 CFR 1.192(a) were not submitted. [One might rhetorically ponder, which two of the three Administrative Patent Judges on the panel who will decide this appeal, appellants intended to provide an incomplete record.] However, in this instance only as relatively few pages are involved, and as a courtesy to appellants, to save them the costs for this failure of their attorney, the examiner provided the two omitted, additional copies.

3. Any inquiry concerning either this or an earlier communication from the Examiner should be directed to Examiner Edward A. Miller at (703) 306-4163. Examiner Miller may normally be reached Monday-Thursday, from 10 AM to 7 PM.

If attempts to reach Examiner Miller by telephone are unsuccessful, his supervisor Mr. Carone can be reached at (703) 306-4198. The Group fax number is (703) 305-7687.

If there is no answer, or for any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the application status, please call the Group receptionist at (703) 308-1113.

Miller/em
October 24, 2001



EDWARD A. MILLER
PRIMARY EXAMINER